News release

The weather achieves iconic status

10 November 2006

The Met Office, as the UK's national weather service, is pleased to say that today the weather has been announced as an official icon of England.

The ICONS Online web site is initially funded by Culture Online, part of the Department of Culture, Media and Sport, with the aim of promoting England's culture and heritage. It is a not-for-profit, independent educational and recreational project. Through the web site people can nominate and vote for their favourite icon of England.

BBC weatherman Peter Gibbs said: "No portrait of our nation would be complete without including our weather. It shapes our national lifestyle; the way we live, work and play - in England and also across Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales too. By influencing the outcome of battles, such as the 'D' day landings, the weather may have even altered the course of our nation's history."

As a world leader in weather forecasting and climate prediction, the Met Office is delighted to have been associated with this project, which is evolving into an inspirational resource for education on England's diverse culture and heritage. For those with an enthusiasm for weather, the Met Office web site is a rich source of resources.

Resources from our learning centre

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